

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in light of the amendments and remarks herein.

As requested, a complete listing of claims according to the amendment filed March 26, 2003, is presented above. Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1-16 and 18-20 will be pending.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, entry of this amendment and the amendment filed March 26, 2003, and the allowance of this application with claims 1-16 and 18-20 is respectfully solicited.

In regard to the claims amended herein and throughout the prosecution of this application, it is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record, and that these claims were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112. Changes to these claims, as presented herein, are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§101, 102, 103 or 112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

In the event that additional cooperation in this case may be helpful to complete its prosecution, the Examiner is cordially invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number written below.


PATENT
Serial No. 09/146,734
Attorney Docket No. 450117-4648

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with the above-identified application to Deposit Account 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP

By:


Hans R. Mahr, Reg. No. 46,138 for

William S. Frommer

Reg. No. 25,506

(212) 588-0800